

U.S.S.N. 10/709,771

3

04783 (LC 0156 PUS)

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An air delivery system for a vehicle comprising:

at least one air plenum;

at least one coupling joint coupled to said at least one air plenum and ~~residing between and is hidden with respect to a line of sight of a vehicle occupant in a normal seated position by overlapping sections of a vehicle housing;~~

at least one vent coupled to said at least one coupling joint; and

at least one air transfer device passing air through said at least one air plenum, [[and]] said at least one coupling joint, and said at least one vent;

wherein said at least one vent resides between and is hidden, with respect to a line-of-sight of a vehicle occupant in a normal seated position, by overlapping sections of a vehicle housing when in a normal operating state.

2. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said overlapping sections comprise:

a first section; and

a second section that overlaps said first portion.

Claim 3 canceled.

4. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim [[3]]1 wherein said at least one vent extends along and resides within said at least one coupling joint.

5. (Original) A system as in claim 2 wherein said second section overlaps said first section such that an air outlet of said at least one air plenum is hidden with respect to a normally seated occupant line-of-sight.

U.S.S.N. 10/709,771

4

04783 (LC 0156 PUS)

6. (Original) A system as in claim 2 wherein an upper portion of said first section is recessed relative to a lower portion of said second section.

7. (Original) A system as in claim 2 wherein said first section and said second section are integrally formed as a single module.

8. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said vehicle housing is selected from at least one of a dashboard housing, a center console housing, a pillar housing, and a door panel housing.

9. (Original) A system as in claim 1 further comprising at least one air flow adjustment device adjusting at least one of the direction of air flow out from said at least one air plenum and the amount of air flow through said at least one plenum.

10. (Original) A system as in claim 1 further comprising a controller coupled to said air transfer device and controlling at least one parameter selected from temperature, pressure, volume, and type, of air flowing through said at least one air plenum.

11. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one air plenum comprises an output with an outer edge that is at an angle of approximately between 30°-60° relative to a horizontal plane of the vehicle, said air plenum directing air toward a seat system of the vehicle.

12. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one air plenum extends along said at least one coupling joint.

U.S.S.N. 10/709,771

5

04783 (LC 0156 PUS)

13. (Original) A system as in claim 1 further comprising at least one coupling member attaching said at least one air plenum to said at least one coupling joint.

14. (Original) A system as in claim 13 wherein said at least one coupling member is selected from at least one of a clip, a tab, a bracket, a socket, a press-fit fitting, a tree fastener, and a fastener.

15. (Currently Amended) A dashboard assembly for a vehicle comprising:

a lower housing;

an upper housing overlapping said lower housing;

at least one air plenum residing between said lower housing and said upper housing;

at least one coupling joint coupled to said at least one air plenum and residing between an upper housing and a lower housing, said upper housing overlapping said lower housing to hide said at least one coupling joint; and

at least one air transfer device passing air through said at least one air plenum, said at least one coupling joint, and into an interior cabin of the vehicle;

wherein said upper housing overlaps said lower housing to hide an air outlet of said at least one air plenum and said at least one coupling joint, with respect to a normally seated occupant line-of-sight, when in a normal operating state.

Claim 16 canceled.

17. (Original) A dashboard assembly as in claim 15 further comprising at least one vent coupled to said at least one coupling joint.

U.S.S.N. 10/709,771

6

04783 (LC 0156 PUS)

18. (Original) A dashboard assembly as in claim 17 wherein said upper housing overlaps said lower housing such that said at least one vent is hidden with respect to a normally seated occupant line-of-sight.

19. (Currently Amended) A vehicle interior assembly comprising:
at least one air plenum having an air outlet from which air enters an interior vehicle cabin;

a dashboard having an upper housing that overlaps a lower housing to hide said air outlet during a normal operating state;

at least one coupling joint coupled to said at least one air plenum and residing between said upper housing and said lower housing; and

at least one air transfer device passing air through said at least one air plenum, said at least one coupling joint, and into [[an]] said interior vehicle cabin.

20. (Original) An interior assembly as in claim 19 further comprising at least one vent coupled to said at least one coupling joint.

21. (New) A system as in claim 2 wherein said first section is adjacent a first segment of said coupling joint and said second section is adjacent a second segment of said coupling joint.

22. (New) A system as in claim 1 wherein a first wall of said housing is adjacent a top side of said air plenum and a second wall of said housing is adjacent a bottom side of said air plenum, and wherein said first wall overlaps said second wall.